Statement

Details of Training Programmes conducted under Revolving Fund Scheme at IASRI

Year	From ICAR/SAU's		Outside ICAR/ SAU's	
	Trainees Trained (Number)	Amount Generated (Rs. in Lakh)	Trainees Trained (Number)	Amount Generated (Rs. in Lakhs)
1998-99 1999-	90	2.5	5	0.18
2000 2000-01	183	7.212	5	0.24
2001-till date	155	6.6	7	0.39
	56	3.06		
TOTAL:	484	19.372	17	0.81

Development of horticulture in Maharashtra

1380. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have chalked out any plan for development of horticulture in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) The Government is providing assistance to the State Governments including Maharashtra for the development of horticulture under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture—Supplementation/Complementation of States' Efforts

through Work Plans. As per the Work Plan an Outlay of Rs. 54.14 crore have been earmarked for horticulture development in Maharashtra during 2000-01 and 2001-02.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) In all, an amount of Rs. 89.35 crores was released to the Government of Maharashtra during the year 2000-01 and an amount of Rs. 45.00 crores has been released towards the first instalment during 2001-02 under the Macro-Management Scheme.

Private investment in agriculture

1381. SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that while inaugurating the Chief Minister's Conference on impact of WTO regime on agriculture and the procurement policy, in May, the Prime Minister expressed concern over the falling investment in agriculture and stressed the need for encouraging private investment; and

(b) if so, what strategy, if any, was evolved to encourage private investment in agriculture and how it would affect the land ownership system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Prime Minister expressed concern over falling public investment in Agriculture. He pointed out that "both the Centre and the State should use the available limited resources more efficiently, especially for capital formation. We must devise attractive policies to encourage private investment in agriculture especially in extension services."

Under the National Agriculture Policy, Government intend to encourage private sector investment in agriculture more particularly in areas like agricultural research, human resource development, post harvest management and marketing. A conducive climate will be created through a favourable price and trade regime to promote farmers' own investments as also investments by industries producing inputs for agriculture and agro based industries.